



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1998

No. 86

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 1998, at 12:30 p.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1998

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, we prepare for the July 4 recess by remembering Benjamin Franklin's words to George Washington at the Constitutional Convention, "I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? I believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed no better than the builders of Babel. We shall be divided by our partial local interests; our projects will be confounded . . ."

Gracious Lord, we join our voices with our Founding Fathers in confessing our total dependence on You. We believe that You are the Author of the glorious vision that gave birth to our beloved Nation. What You began You will continue to develop to full fruition, and today the women and men of this Senate will grapple with the issues of moving this Nation forward in keeping with Your vision. Think Your thoughts through their words; speak Your truth through their words; enable Your best for America through what You lead them to decide. In the Name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

### COMMENDING SENATOR STROM THURMOND

Mr. LOTT. Let me say again, Mr. President, how proud I am that the Senate last night voted to name our defense authorization bill the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act. We all admire you and love you so much. You are the idol of every Senator. Your example is one to which we all aspire.

We are very proud of you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thank you very much for your kind remarks.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, this morning there will be a period of morning business until 10:10. Following morning business, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the nominations of A. Howard Matz to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Victoria A. Roberts to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. It is, therefore, expected that up to two votes will occur on those nominations at approximately 10:15 this morning.

Following those votes, the Senate may consider any of the following items: drug czar reauthorization bill, the clean needles bill, the reading excellence legislation, the legislative branch appropriations bill, and other legislative or executive items that may be cleared for action.

Once again, Members are reminded there will be rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate, with the first vote expected at approximately 10:15.

I understand from our discussions with Senator DASCHLE that we perhaps have been able to get an agreement on the higher education bill—we did get the time agreement locked in—with a number of amendments in order. We will work to consider that bill as expeditiously as possible. We need to get it done because the authorization expires July 1. Even though we have had an extension of funding for 90 days, that is something we need to get done absolutely before we go out for the year. So we need to get it completed in the Senate and be able to get it in conference. We also may be able to take up the intelligence authorization bill later on today.

Let me go ahead and announce to the Senate, and I will repeat it later, right before votes probably, Senators should expect long days and lots of votes during the month of July. We will have votes on most Mondays, even though we have not made a final decision with regard to July 6. It is expected we will have one vote on that date, but we are still working with Senators on both sides to determine what that one vote will be late in the day.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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